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REMARKS**Status of Claims**

Claims 1-27 are pending in the application. Claims 15-27 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-14 stand rejected. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Affirmation of Election

Applicants hereby affirm the provisional election, with traverse, to prosecute the invention of Group I, claims 1-14. Applicants affirm that claims 15-27 are withdrawn from further consideration by the examiner under 37 C.F.R. 1.142(b) as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

Specification

The Examiner states that the abstract is objected to because it is not in the form of a single paragraph. Applicants have herein amended the abstract as a single paragraph. Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the abstract be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102(b)

Claims 1-4 and 6-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Buchanan (3,901,675).

The Examiner states that Fig. 7 of Buchanan shows the invention including upper nozzles 128 and lower nozzles 104b. The Examiner states that as to the fluids used, such is a method of use limitation and has little bearing on the structure of Buchanan or the instant claims.

Applicants have amended claims 1 and 7 to contain a bushing as part of the claimed apparatus. Buchanan et al. fail to teach or suggest Applicants' claimed

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invention (in part): an apparatus for cooling filaments in a filament forming process comprising a bushing; a first nozzle; and a second nozzle.

In contrast to Applicants' filament forming apparatus, Buchanan et al. teach a fiberizing apparatus, including feeders each having an orifice through which a stream of molten glass flows onto a hollow rotor or spinner. Buchanan et al. teach that streams of glass are projected, in a tubular formation, from a spinner.

Buchanan et al. fail to teach additional limitations of Applicants' claimed invention. Buchanan et al. specifically teach that the fibers are sprayed with water by water-spraying nozzles, the fibers then pass through a cylindrical lapper, finally the fibers are sprayed with a binder by binder-applying nozzles before being collected on a conveyor (col. 9, lines 20-65). In contrast, Applicants claim (in part), first and second nozzles positioned to direct first and second fluids at the filaments upstream of a size applicator in a filament forming process.

Applicants respectfully submit that newly amended claims 1 and 7 clearly define over Buchanan et al. Claims 2-4 and 6 ultimately depend from claim 1 (amended) and contain the limitations thereof. Claims 8-11 ultimately depend from claim 7 (amended) and contain the limitations thereof. As such, Applicants will not argue these additional limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 102(b) rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-11 be withdrawn.

Claim 5 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mennig (5,716,424).

The Examiner states that col. 7, lines 18-22 of Mennig teach Applicants' claimed invention.

Claim 5 ultimately depends from claim 1 (newly amended) contains the limitations thereof.

Mennig et al. teach saturating a glass fiber cloth fabric with a solution using a compressed air atomizer (col. 7, lines 18-22). Nowhere does Mennig et al. teach or

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suggest Applicants' claimed invention of (claim 1; in part) an apparatus for cooling filaments in a filament forming process comprising a bushing; a first nozzle; and a second nozzle.

Further, Mennig et al. fail to teach additional limitations of Applicants' claimed invention. Specifically, (claim 1; in part), wherein first and second nozzles are positioned to direct first and second fluids at the filaments upstream of a size applicator in the filament forming process.

Applicants respectfully submit that newly amended claim 1 clearly defines over Mennig et al. and that claim 5 ultimately depends from claim 1 and contains the limitations thereof. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 102(b) rejection of claim 5 be withdrawn.

Claims 7, and 12-14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Lewin (4,886,536).

Applicants have amended claim 7 to include the limitations of claim 8, wherein the apparatus includes "a second nozzle located at a second position, said second nozzle directing a second fluid at the filaments, wherein said first fluid is different from said second fluid." Claim 8 has been cancelled herein and claim 9 has been amended to properly depend from claim 7. In claim 12, the limitation, "a bushing having a generally planar bottom plate;" has been deleted as this limitation has been added to claim 7.

Lewin teaches an air transvector positioned between a bushing and a size applicator (col. 2, lines 34-36).). Lewin does not teach or suggest a second nozzle for directing a second fluid at the filaments as Applicants' claim (claim 7, as amended). Further, in contrast to Applicants' claimed invention, Lewin teaches away from using water to cool glass fibers and teaches using only air to cool the fibers so as to minimize the migration of sizing from the fibers and to prevent damage to the glass fibers (col. 2, lines 6-10). In contrast, Applicants claim (in part; claim 7): a first

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nozzle disposed to direct a first fluid at the filaments, said fluid being a mixture of water and air; said second nozzle directing a second fluid at the filaments, wherein said first fluid is different from said second fluid.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims of the present invention, as amended, clearly define over Lewin. Claims 12-14 ultimately depend from claim 7 (amended) and contain the limitations thereof, as such, Applicants will not argue these additional limitations. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the 102(b) rejection of claims 7 and 12-14 be withdrawn.

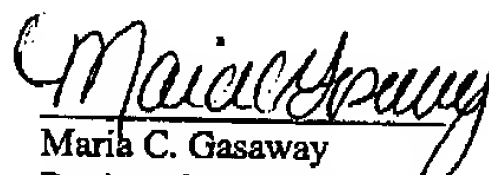
Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of all claims at an early date is solicited. If any questions should arise with respect to the above Remarks, or if the Examiner has any comments or suggestions to place the claims in better condition for allowance, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicant's agent at the number listed below.

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Applicant authorizes any fees required pertaining to this response be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,


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